

ABSTRACT

5       A pedicle screw assembly includes pedicle screw having a plurality of spaced-  
apart posts. A ball collet having a ball collet bore is seated on the pedicle screw between  
the posts and a rod is gripped by an inner surface of the ball collet bore. The assembly  
also includes a cap that is coupled to the posts, the cap applying a compressive force to  
the ball collet against a seat of said pedicle screw. A free end of the rod may be provided  
10   with various structures to enable such free end to be retained by another pedicle screw.